

Grades 6-8

Independent Reading Log

Directions: Now that you have completed your independent reading for the day, choose one question to respond to in writing on your reading log. Please be sure to choose a question that matches the genre of the text you are reading. Your log must include the date of your entry, title of book, name of author, number of pages read, genre, and question #.

Fiction Extended Thinking Questions

1. Write down a line of dialogue from your book that you believe is significant to the story. What does that line of dialogue reveal about the character who said it?
2. How does the author create *suspense* in the story? Explain.
3. Write down one way a character from your book changes throughout the story. What does that tell you about the character?
4. Describe the mood of your story. Why do you think this mood was chosen?
5. Tell me about a scene that you were able to visualize. Why do you think it was easy to visualize?
6. What does indirect characterization tell you about the main character? Is this a person you'd be friends with? Why or why not?
7. Tell me about an inference you made while reading. How does this inference help you understand your story better?
8. What is another book you have read that has a similar theme or message?
9. Would you like to read something else by this author? Why or why not?
10. What is one conclusion you can draw from your reading? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking. (I can conclude that _____ because the text says _____.)

Nonfiction Extended Thinking Questions

1. What *background knowledge* would be helpful prior to reading the text? Why?
2. What was the *author's purpose* in writing this text? Use information, facts, or examples as evidence from the text to support your thinking.
3. Write down a quote from the text that really stood out to you. Explain the importance of that quote to the text and what it means to you.
4. What writing technique(s) does the author use to appeal to the reader?
5. In the section of the text you read, what type of argument or evidence does the author use to support his/her central idea? Are the arguments/evidence effective to you, as a reader?
6. What is the main idea of the passage? Use two details and/or examples from the passage to tell why you believe this to be the main idea.
7. Write down an unfamiliar word from the text. What do you think it means as it was used in the text? How do you know?
8. What is a topic in your book that you would like to learn more about? What is your plan to find out that information?
9. Find one text feature that was helpful and explain how it helped you understand the text better.
10. What is one conclusion you can draw from your reading? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.